

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2004 Contact: Ellen Zyroff (858) 694-2484

"RELIGION IN AN AGE OF SCIENCE" SATURDAY LECTURE SERIES Friends of the Library Provocative Lecture Series Begins in September

As part of the Valley Center Friends of the Library's goal to encourage life long learning, a free five-week lecture series will be offered at the Valley Center Branch starting Saturday, September 11 at 11:00 a.m. and continuing weekly through Saturday, October 9.

Led by Dr. Gerry Slusser and physicist John Smylie, the "Spirituality vs. Science" series is designed to spark spirited discussions between the lecturers themselves and among the speakers and the audience.

Slusser and Smylie will explore the areas of experience where science leaves off. For example: How does science explains hope and the meaning of life? How does it account for human longing?

According to Slusser, "Life reaches for something, just as birds know how to migrate and sunflowers face the sun."

Slusser recommends that participants read Huston Smith's <u>Why Religion</u> <u>Matters</u>, a book that argues the following: "Direction is always toward the best that we can conceive. (Reading the book is not required for participation.)

"Without focusing on any one religious institution or particular creed, the lecturers' content will be centered on the inward experience where meaning, hope and values are found," says Slusser.

The meetings will be held in the seminar room of the Valley Center Branch Library located at 29200 Cole Grade Road in Valley Center.

For more information call the library at (760) 749-1305.

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